

11-13-18

3.B



CALIFORNIA SIKH AWARENESS & APPRECIATION MONTH Celebrating Sikh Heritage From 1890s



"Manas Kee Jaat Sabe Ek Kho Pachaneyo"
See the whole human race as one

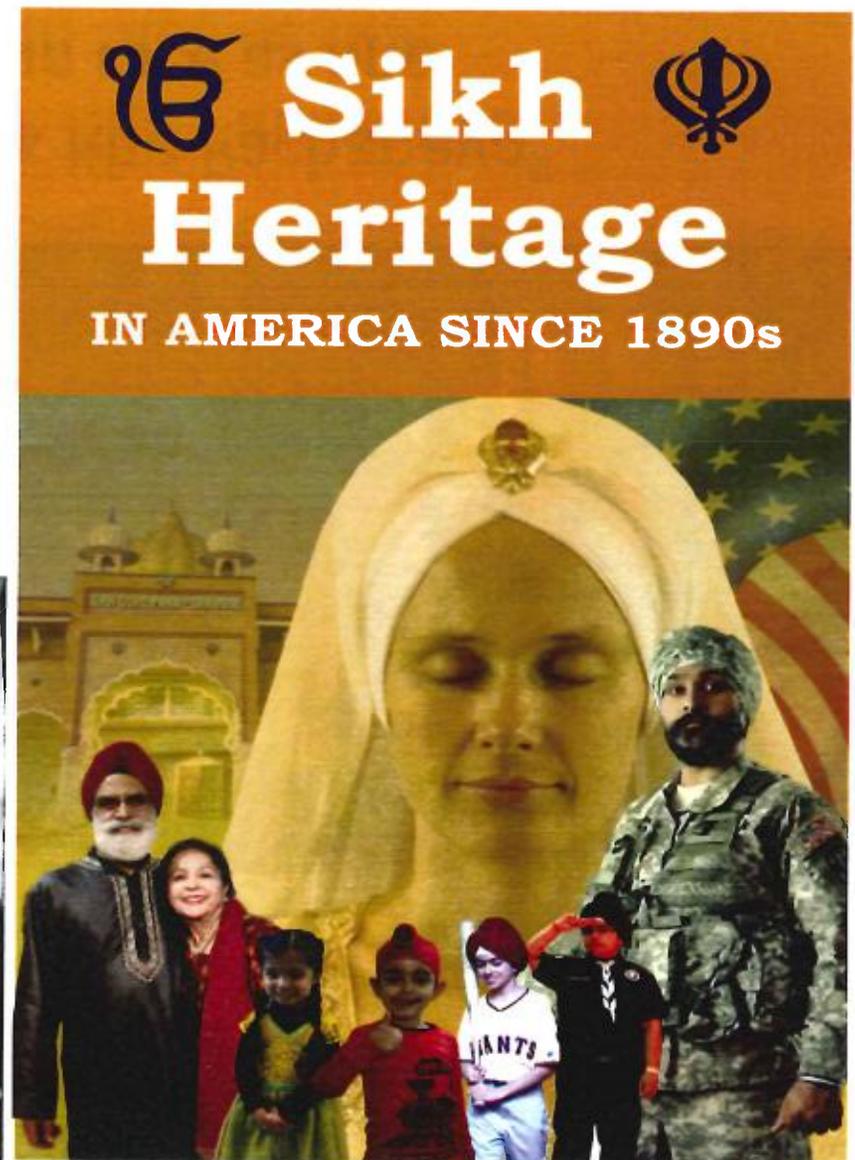
CASikhs
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POST MEETING MATERIAL POST MEETING MATERIAL

Sikh Heritage Month or SAAM



- SAAM Instituted In2012
- Sikhs are a grass root community of California and North America since the 1890s and have made significant contributions
- Contributing to all aspects of industry, science, farming, the military, and so much more in significant ways!



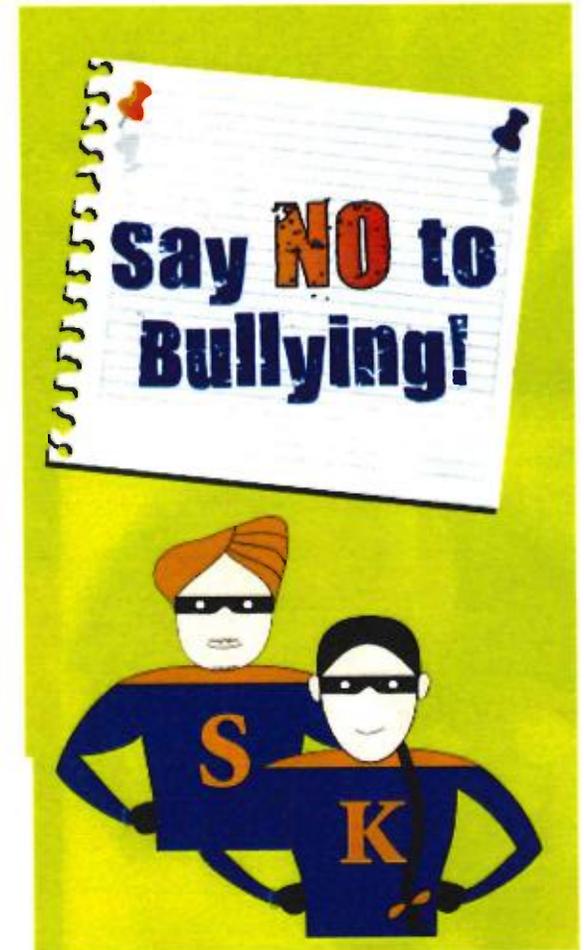
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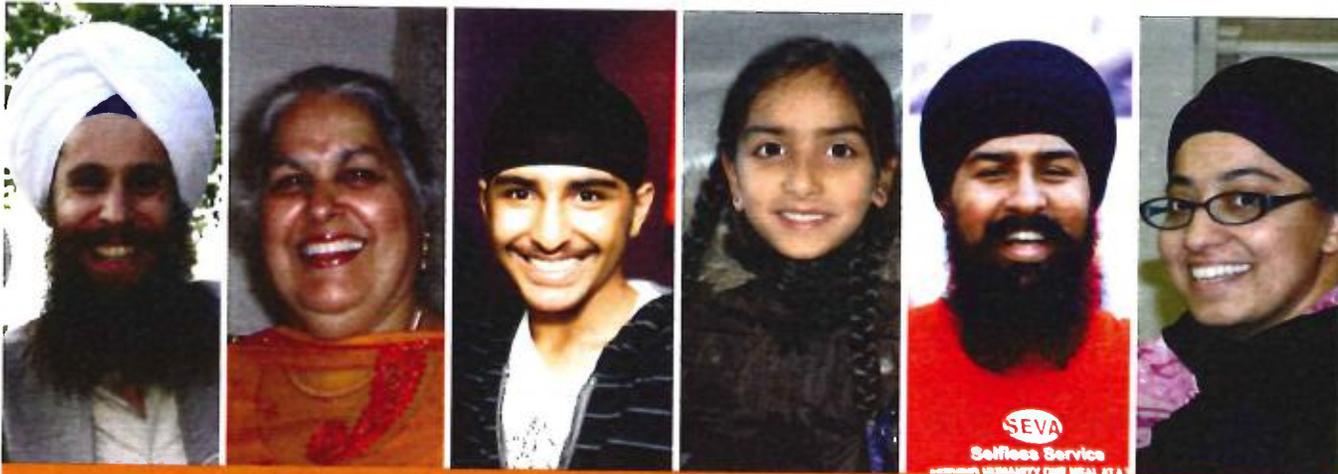


Bullying and Hate Crimes

- 66% of Santa Clara and surrounding cities are Minorities
- Over 500K Sikhs live in US
- 40% in Northern California
- Sikhs are and have always been a minority here and around the world, including India.
- Hate Crimes and Bullying continue to Increase
 - 67 % of Sikh Youth Face Bullying
 - As do other minorities and youth
- Inclusion and Diversity Appreciation are a Must
- *Important to learn about each other's communities and traditions. As others communities also face racism and bullying, too!*

* Stats by National Sikh Campaign and Sikh Coalition





WHO ARE THE SIKHS?

5th largest Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion after Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.



In America, 99% of the people you see wearing a turban are Sikhs.

POPULATION OF SIKHS



~25 million Sikhs worldwide



500,000+ Sikhs in America

The largest concentrations of Sikhs in America live in CA, NY, and NJ.

SIKHS IN AMERICA

>100 years Sikhs have been in America for over 100 years.

BELIEFS

Sikhs share basic values with Americans: the importance of **equality, religious pluralism, and justice for all.**

founded in 1469 Sikhism was founded in 1469 by Guru Nanak in the Punjab region of South Asia.

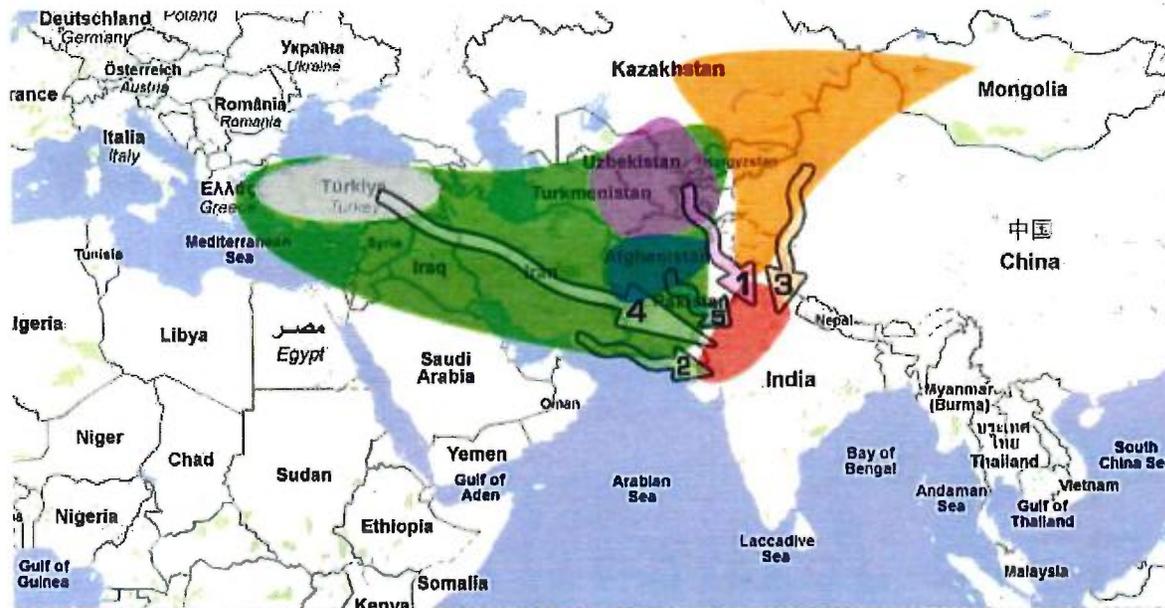
Sikhism is a distinct, independent and monotheistic religion. It is not a branch or blend of any other faith.

3 core beliefs There are 3 core Sikh beliefs: devotion to God, truthful living, and service to humanity.



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BRIEF HISTORY- Constant Invasions



- INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION
- BACTRIA
- PERSIAN EMPIRE (486 BC)
- HEPHTHALITES OR WHITE HUNS (500)
- TURKS
- AFGHANS (MUGHALS)

By
1469

Varied Philosophies
and religious diversity.

Plagued by invasions, inequality, religious oppression, classism, ritualism, passivism and abuse and inequality of women

1469 - 1699

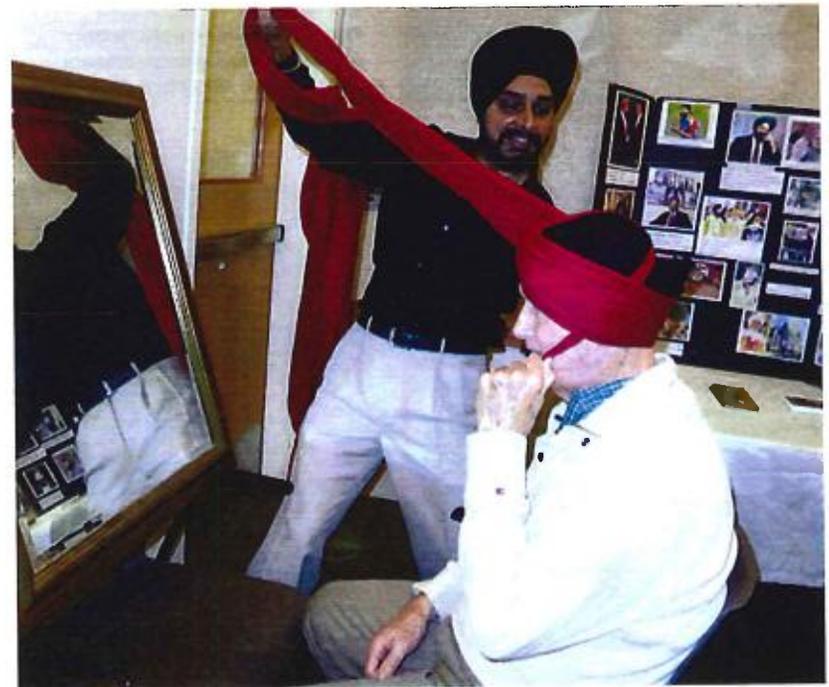
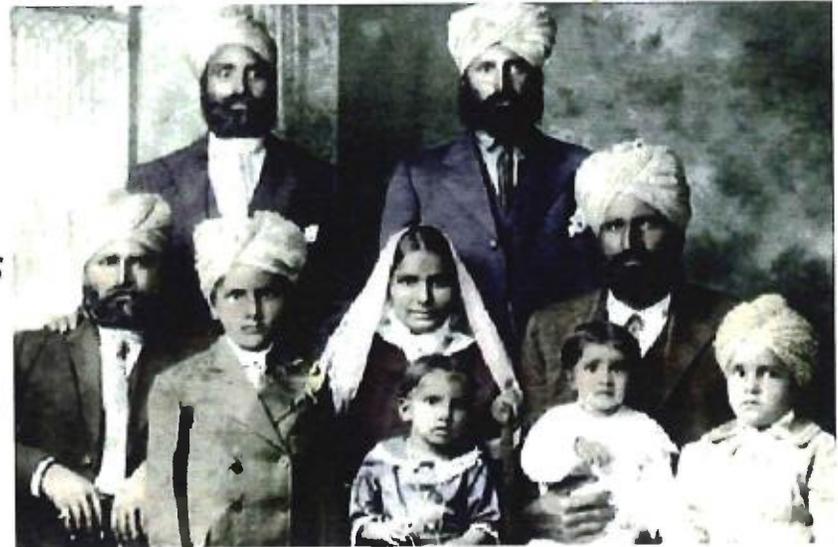


Activist/Leaders rose in the Punjab region - Sikhs!

- Against religious oppression, tyranny, superficial ritualism, inequality amongst people and women, and passivism. **FREEDOM, JUSTICE, EQUALITY, ACTIVISM, RESILIANCE**

NOT a RELIGION - Tradition and Way of Life. – RESILIANCE

- **Late 1890s Sikh Pioneers Arrived US and CA**
- **Many Sikh Men and Mexican women married**
- **Recent History Main Highlights: *Sensitivities increasing now***
 - **1947 Partition** – Families forced to move and separate facing severe violence and severe hardship over the journey to both sides depending on your community ID.
 - **1984 Sikh Genocide:** Some Sikhs have faced severe personal trauma tragedy from the 1984 Sikh Genocide in north India. Some left due to religious prosecution
 - **Post 2001 9/11** – Severe violent hate crimes and bullying in schools have increased
 - Ex 2012 Oak Creek, WI Gurdwara Massacre
- **Today many feel threatened and losing the identity, fear violence and bullying**
- **We must work to prevent hate crimes and bullying that is in on the rise against all minorities**



NOTABLE Sikhs



The Sikh who holds over 100 Patents and also known as "Father of Fiber Optics"
Narinder Singh Kapany



First Doctor to arrive at Ground Zero site on 9/11 is a Sikh
Navinderdeep Singh Nijher



First Asian American to be elected as member of United States Congress was a Sikh
Dalip Singh Saund

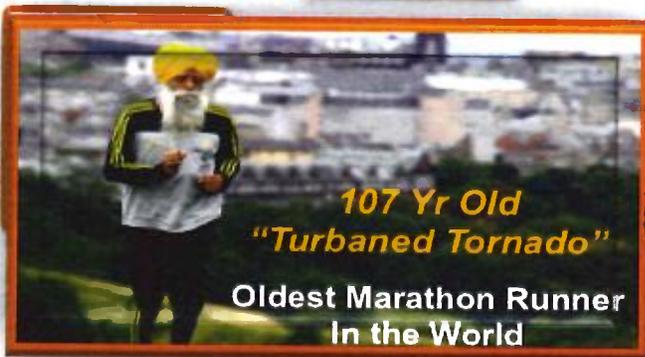


NCAA's first Sikh Basketball Player
Darsh Preet Singh

First Turbaned Pilot hired by a Commercial Airline in the United States
Arpinder Kaur



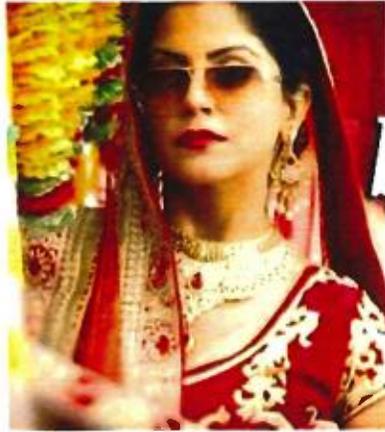
World renowned and Grammy Nominated American Kirtan Singer who sings classical Sikh music and hymns
Snatam Kaur Khalsa



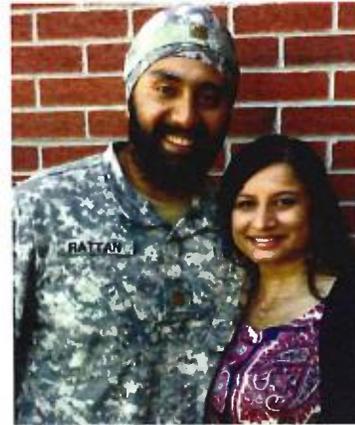
Biggest Producer of Raisins in the World is a Sikh
Charanjit Singh Batth



Pushpinder Kaur
Author & Founder of San Jose Khalsa School



Ishmeet Kaur Narula
International Singer Star



DR. Tejdeep Rattan
US ARMY



Sarabjit Singh
Artist



Harbir K Bhatia
Commissioner
Community
Activist



Raj S Chahal
Commissioner
Community
Activist



R. Paul Singh
Serial Entrepreneur



Tarani Dang –
13 yr old
Young
Entrepreneur



Harleen Kaur
Film Producer

2017 SAAM Highlights

7 EVENTS

Food Packing events

NCSS President and Teachers Reception

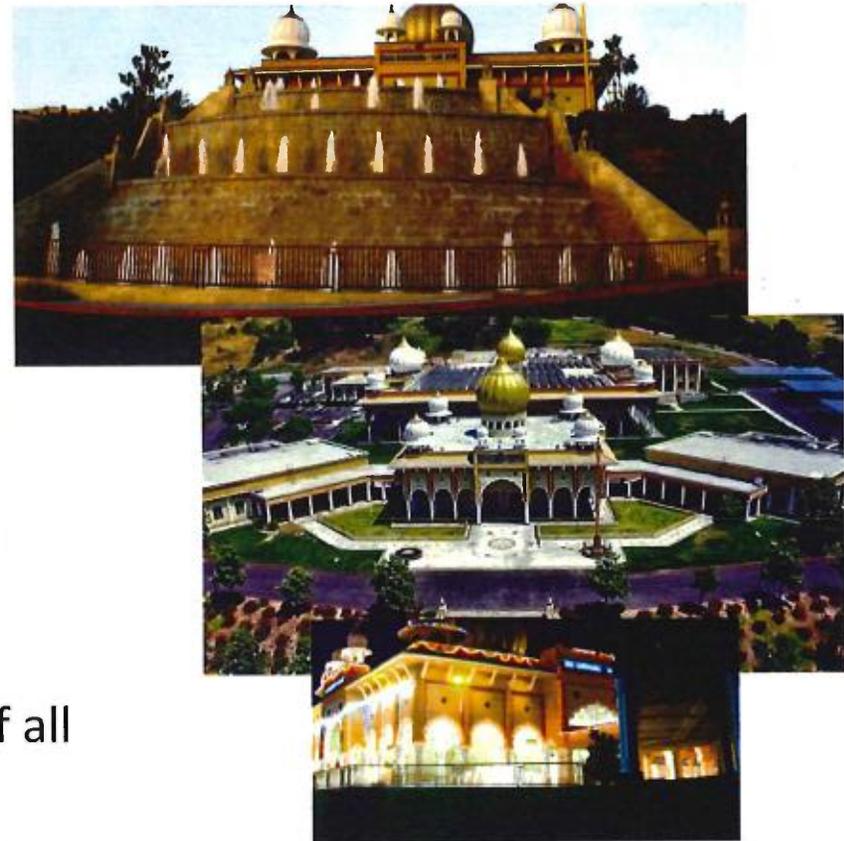
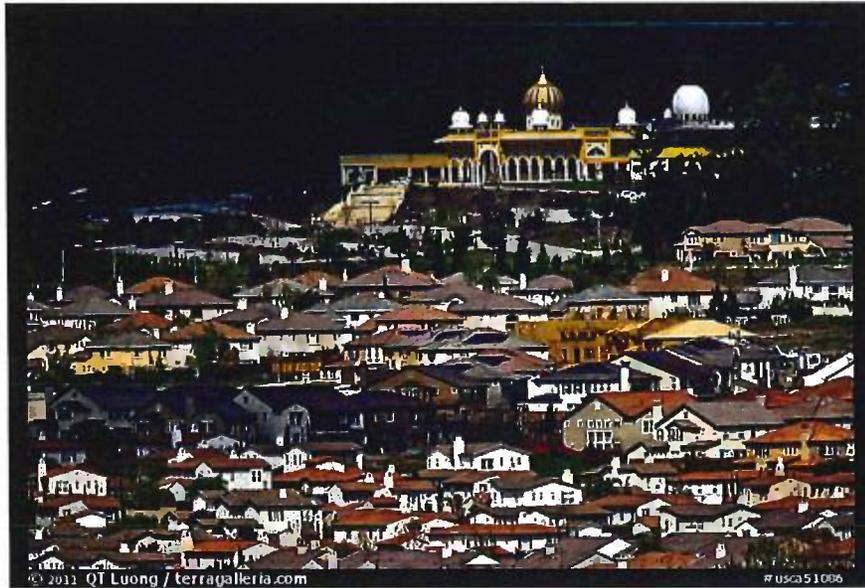
Library Events on CA Sikh History and Diversity

Closing Celebration at Tree Lighting Ceremony





Your Are Invited to Visit the Sikh Gurdwara of San Jose



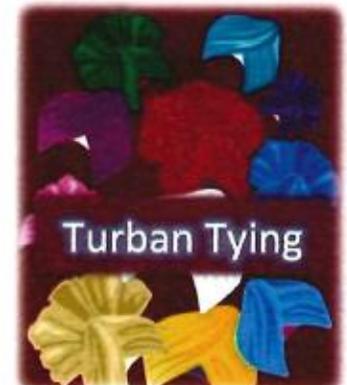
- Largest Outside of South Asia
 - 4 Doors on all sides to welcome all of all beliefs
 - Langar, Community Kitchen Free 24 hours a day
- April Vaisakhi, Oct/Nov Diwali, New Year's are some of the most amazing views of the place

SAAM 2018 November Community Events in Partnership w/Cultural Commission

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- 11/5 High Tea at SCUSD GAM Meeting
- 11/8 SAAM Proclamation at SCUSD
- 11/9 Sikh Awareness Breakfast at San Ramon Elementary School
- 11/13 SAAM Proclamation at Santa Clara Council
- 11/17 Award Winning Film "Drawn Together" and Reception
- 11/19 Luncheon Santa Clara Police Department
- 12/7 Turban tying and Dances at Tree Lighting Ceremony



Facebook: @JOYofSEWA
or Santa Clara for more information



CASikhs
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Thank you
City of Santa Clara
and
The Cultural
Commission

